

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

NIC-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

SCI-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02 CU-04 RSR-01 SCEM-02 /140 W

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R 061541 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9870

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

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E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS: ENRG ETRD ETRN SW US

SUBJECT: KOSYGIN VISIT - ECONOMIC ASPECTS

REF: STOCKHOLM 3468 969 AND 1193

SUMMARY: AS EXPECTED NO NEW DECISIONS IN ECONOMIC AREA
WERE TAKEN DURING KOSYING VISIT TO SWEDEN. AGREEMENTS WERE
SIGNED COVERING SHIPPING AND BALTIC SEA RESCUE SERVICES, BUT
MAJOR QUESTIONS OF NATURAL GAS, EXPORT CREDITS AND URANIUM
ENRICHMENT WERE DISCUSSED ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS. KOSYGIN
STRESSED THAT WHILE SWEDEN AND SOVIET UNION ARE NATURAL TRADING
PARTNERS, EXPANSION OF SWEDISH- SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONS SHOULD
BE LOOKED AT AS LONG- TERM MATTER REQUIRING CAREFUL PREPARATION
AND DEVELOPMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. FINAL COMMUNIQUE STRESSED " IMPORTANCE OF A FAVORABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF SWEDISH/ SOVIET TRADE", BUT NOTED THAT " ECONOMIC
INDISTRIAL, AND TECHNICAL- SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WOULD BE
FURTHEREED

IF IT WERE GIVEN A MORE LONG- TERM CHARACTER". THE TWO PRIME MINI-
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STERS " REQUESTED THE JOINT SWEDISH/ SOVIET COMMISSION TO DRAW UP PROPOSALS FOR THE CREATION OF A STABLE BASIS FOR SUCH COOPERATION. " IN DISCUSSIONS SWedes NOTED THAT SWEDISH EXPORTS TO USSR HAD DROPPED SHARPLY OVER LAST TWO YEARS. IN 1972 SWedes BOUGHT ALMOST TWICE AS MUCH FROM RUSSIA AS THEY SOLD, I. E., 759 MILLION SKR COMPARED TO 397 MILLION SKR. SOVIETS, HOWEVER, WERE EBVIOUSLY NOT PREPARED TO CONCLUDE SPECIFIC DEALS, CONFINING THEMSELVES TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN SWEDISH HIGH TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS AND TURNKEY PLANTS. ALFA LAVAL DID ANNOUNCE DURING WEEK CONTRACT TO BUILD FOUR MORE CONDENSED MILK PLANTS IN SOVIET UNION, BUT THIS APPARENTLY NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO VISIT.

2. ON NATURAL GAS. KOSYGIN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT SOVIETS WERE PREPARED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR DELIVERY OF SOVIET NATURAL GAS BY 1978. AS REPORTED EARLIER, DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE TAKEN PLACE OFF AND ON OVER LAST COUPLE OF YEARS BUT SOVIETS HAVE SO FAR DECLINED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON QUANTITIES, PRICES OR OTHER SPECIFICS. WHILE SOVIETS MAY NOW BE PREPARED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SWedes FOR SUPPLY OF NATURA GAS, THEY ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO BIGGER DEALS UNDER DISCUSSION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. REACTING TO PRESS REPORTS THAT SWedes WOULD OFFER EXPORT CREDITS TO KOSYGIN, FOREIGN MINISTER WICKMAN TOLD PRESS ON APRIL 3 THAT NO DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN BEFORE KOSGIN' S DEPARTURE. WICKMAN ADDED THAT IN ANY EVENT THERE WOULD BE NO REPRETITION OF " POSTWAR RUSSIAN CREDTIS AGREEMENT". EMBASSY' S NOTE: SWedes ARE STILL SENSITIVE TO MONUMENTAL MISTAKE MADE IN 1946 BY THEN COMMERCE MINISTER GUNNAR MYRDAL IN EXTENDING ONE BILLION KRONOR CREDIT ON VERY FOVORABLE TERMS TO SOVIETS, ON MISTAKEN BELIEF THAT SWEDEN' S TRADE FUTURE LAY IN EAST. SWedes ARE NOW PUTTING FINNISHING TOUCHES TO EXPORT CREDIT LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO MAKE SWEDISH EXPORT CREDIT FACILITIES MORE COMPARABLE TO THOSE OF OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES. MEASURE REPORTEDLY WILL BE GENERAL IN APPLICATION AND NOT RESTRICTED SOLELY TO USSR.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF URNANIUM ENRICHMENT, IT WAS CONFIRMED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BEGIN IN MAY REGARDING A POSSIBLE CONTRACT FOR SOVIET ENFIRCHMENT SERVICES UNDER EXISTING SOVIRT / SWEDISH AGREEMENT (SEE STOCKHOLM 1108.)
OLSEN

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